



76

DIGITAL
EDITION

SPAWN



TODD MCFARLANE AND IMAGE COMICS PRESENTS...

FAREWELL DANCE



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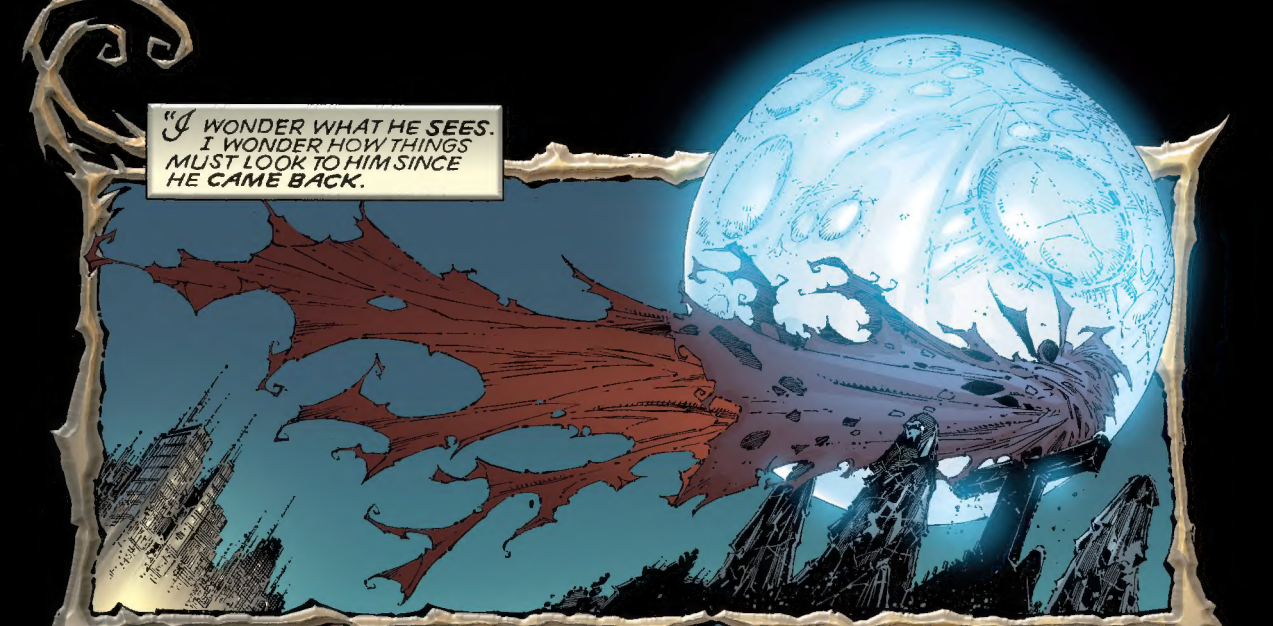
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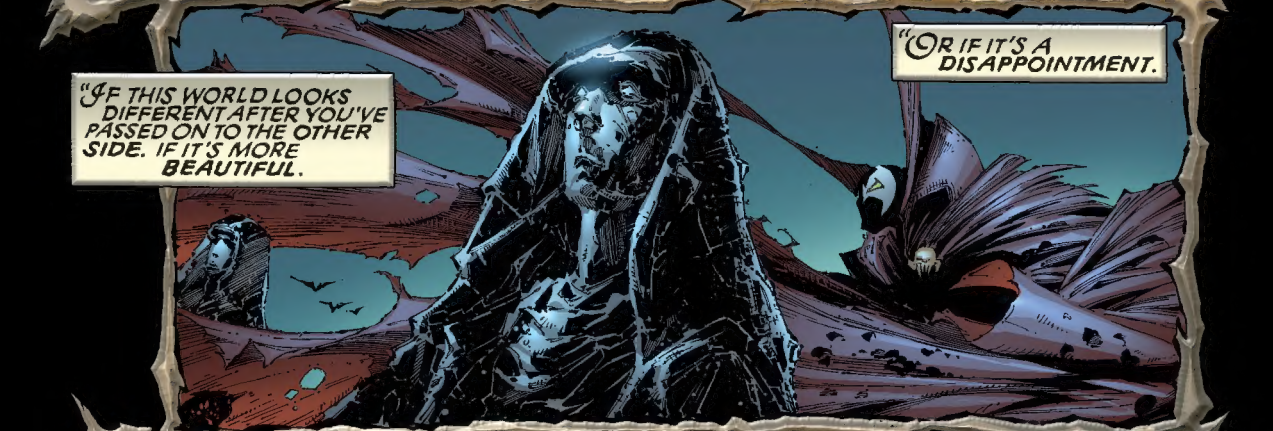
SPAWN 75 Summary

Spawn has been thrown into the realm of Greenworld, a third power beyond Heaven and Hell. There he learns that the earth is under siege by man's relentless pollution and overuse of its resources. He is given the task to stop the war between Heaven and Hell in order to preserve Mother Nature. Back in the alleys, Bootsy prays for Spawn's return to earth and is removed from earth for interfering with mortal's lives.

DEDICATED TO
KORN




"I WONDER WHAT HE SEES.
I WONDER HOW THINGS
MUST LOOK TO HIM SINCE
HE CAME BACK.




"IF THIS WORLD LOOKS
DIFFERENT AFTER YOU'VE
PASSED ON TO THE OTHER
SIDE, IF IT'S MORE
BEAUTIFUL.

"OR IF IT'S A
DISAPPOINTMENT.

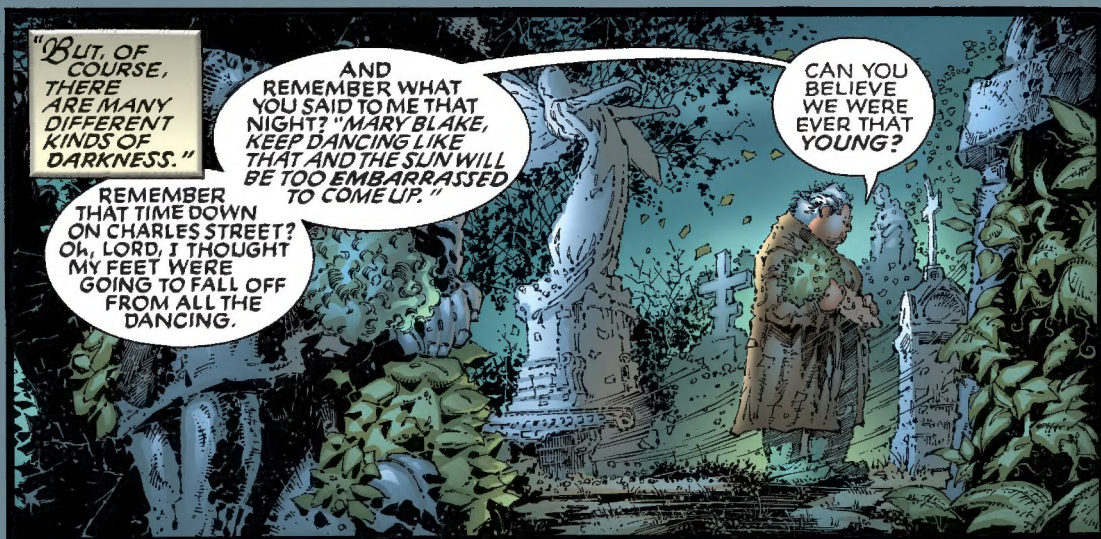


"AND I WONDER WHAT HE SEES
WHEN HE CLOSES HIS EYES.
WHAT IT IS THAT HAUNTS HIM SO.

"WHAT THOSE
SECRETS
ARE THAT HE'S
SO SET ON
KEEPING TO
HIMSELF. I
CAN'T IMAGINE
HOW LONELY
IT MUST BE
FOR HIM.



"I SUPPOSE I
KNOW AS MUCH
AS ANYONE ABOUT
LIVING IN THE DARK.

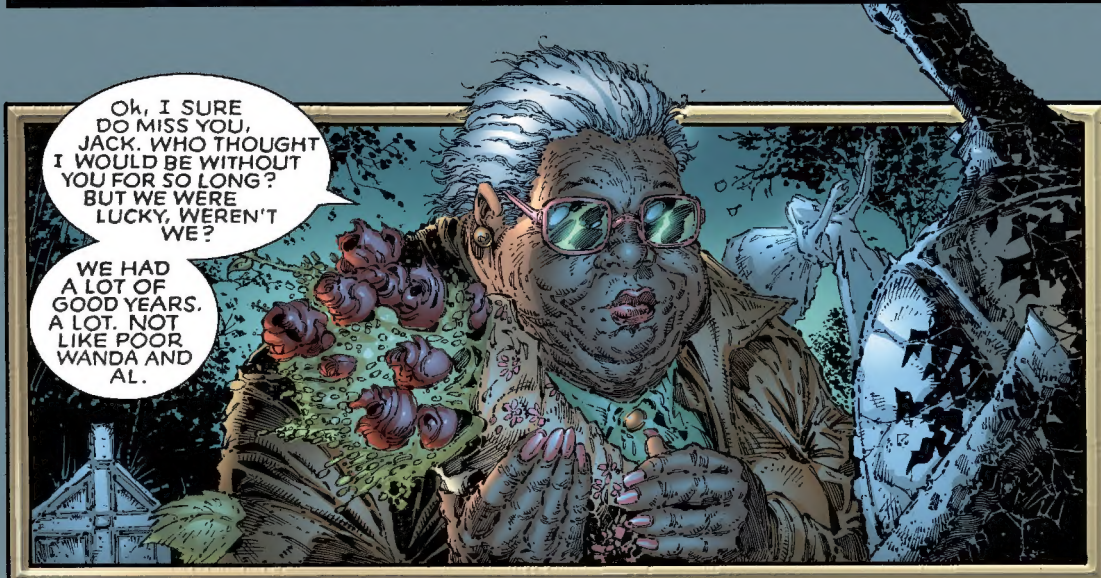


"BUT, OF COURSE, THERE ARE MANY DIFFERENT KINDS OF DARKNESS."

AND REMEMBER WHAT YOU SAID TO ME THAT NIGHT? "MARY BLAKE, KEEP DANCING LIKE THAT AND THE SUN WILL BE TOO EMBARRASSED TO COME UP."

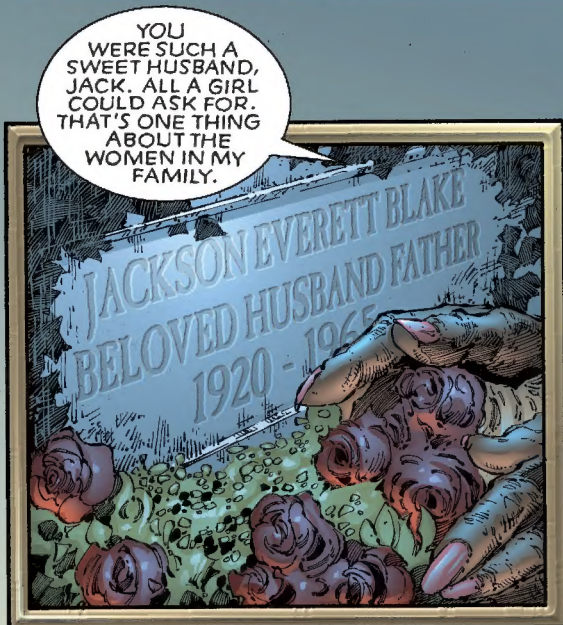
CAN YOU BELIEVE WE WERE EVER THAT YOUNG?

REMEMBER THAT TIME DOWN ON CHARLES STREET? OH, LORD, I THOUGHT MY FEET WERE GOING TO FALL OFF FROM ALL THE DANCING.



OK, I SURE DO MISS YOU, JACK. WHO THOUGHT I WOULD BE WITHOUT YOU FOR SO LONG? BUT WE WERE LUCKY, WEREN'T WE?

WE HAD A LOT OF GOOD YEARS. A LOT. NOT LIKE POOR WANDA AND AL.



YOU WERE SUCH A SWEET HUSBAND, JACK. ALL A GIRL COULD ASK FOR. THAT'S ONE THING ABOUT THE WOMEN IN MY FAMILY.



WE ALWAYS KNEW A GOOD MAN WHEN WE SAW ONE.



GRANNY
BLAKE...?

IT'S OKAY,
AL. I KNOW
YOU'RE THERE...
YOU CAN COME
ON OUT
NOW.



YOU
SHOULDN'T
BE OUT ALONE
AFTER DARK.
IT'S NOT SAFE.

IT'S *ALL*
DARK TO ME,
HONEY. BESIDES,
I KNOW MY
GUARDIAN
ANGEL IS
LOOKING OUT
FOR ME.

NOW, TELL
GRANNY
BLAKE
WHAT'S
TROUBLING
YOU.

WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN?

I MAY
BE *BLIND*,
BUT I'M NO
FOOL. I CAN
HEAR IT IN YOUR
VOICE. NOW,
OUT WITH IT,
CHILD.

SOMETHING...
SOMETHING...
HAPPENED TO ME.
SOMETHING VERY
STRANGE. I DON'T HAVE
THE WORDS TO EXPLAIN
IT. BUT EVERYTHING'S
DIFFERENT.

I CAN
FEEL THE
WORLD, THE
CITY. LIKE IT'S
ALIVE. I CAN
FEEL YOUR SAD-
NESS. I
FOLLOWED
IT TO YOU.

"HE'S ALWAYS
SO CRYPTIC.
ALWAYS HAS
BEEN. I KEEP
HOPING SOME-
DAY HE'LL
FINALLY OPEN
UP TO ME. TELL
ME *ALL* HIS
SECRETS."

I'M AFRAID
I'M *LOSING* MY-
SELF. I DON'T KNOW
WHAT FEELINGS
ARE MINE
ANYMORE.


AND NOW
I'M AFRAID
I'M STARTING TO
FORGET THINGS.
ABOUT MY
REAL LIFE.
THINGS
ABOUT...

...WANDA.

THERE'S SO
MUCH PAIN IN THIS
WORLD. I NEVER
KNEW. HOW COULD
ANY GOD EVER
ALLOW THIS?

HUSH
NOW! DON'T
BLASPHEME.
YOU OF ALL
PEOPLE. YOU'RE
JUST FEELING
SORRY FOR
YOURSELF.
AND THAT'S
OKAY.

"EVERYONE NEEDS
SOMEONE TO
TALK TO ONCE IN A
WHILE. TO LISTEN
TO THEM. EVEN
ANGELS."



YOU LOST THE
WOMAN YOU LOVED.
YOU **DIED** AND CAME
BACK AND FOUND THAT
SHE'S MARRIED TO SOME-
ONE **ELSE** NOW.

SHE'S MOVED
ON BUT THAT
DOESN'T MEAN
SHE'S FORGOTTEN
YOU. WANDA'S MY
GRANDCHILD.
BELIEVE ME.
I KNOW.

SHE'S THE
ONLY THING I
EVER WANTED IN
MY LIFE, THE ONLY
THING THAT EVER
MADE SENSE. BUT
I'M FEELING LESS
AND LESS LIKE
THE MAN WHO
MARRIED HER.

EVERY DAY IT
FADES AWAY JUST
A LITTLE BIT MORE.
IT'S THE ONLY THING
I HAVE LEFT AND
I'M LOSING IT.

HORSE
FEATHERS.

WHAT?

HORSE
FEATHERS.

NONSENSE.

FOR
SOMEONE
SO BRIGHT,
THERE'S SURE
A LOT YOU DON'T
KNOW ABOUT
THE HEART.



LISTEN,
HONEY, DID
I EVER TELL
YOU ABOUT
ME AND
JACK?

"I REMEMBER IT LIKE IT WAS **YESTERDAY**. I KNOW EVERYONE SAYS THAT, BUT IT'S REALLY TRUE. IT WAS DURING THE **WAR**."



"THE DAY HE WALKED INTO THE DINER IT WAS LIKE A HONEY-SUCKLE BREEZE BLEW INTO MY LIFE. HE WAS SWEET AND KIND OF SHY, AND EVER SO **POLITE**."

"FOR THE FIRST MONTH HE JUST CALLED ME '**MA'AM**'. 'JUST A CUP OF COFFEE, **MA'AM**.' 'THANK YOU, **KINDLY, MA'AM.**'"

"'YOU HAVE THE MOST BEAUTIFUL EYES, **MA'AM.**'"

"GENTLEMAN JACK. THAT'S WHAT MY SISTERS WOULD CALL HIM WHENEVER HE CAME CALLING ON ME."

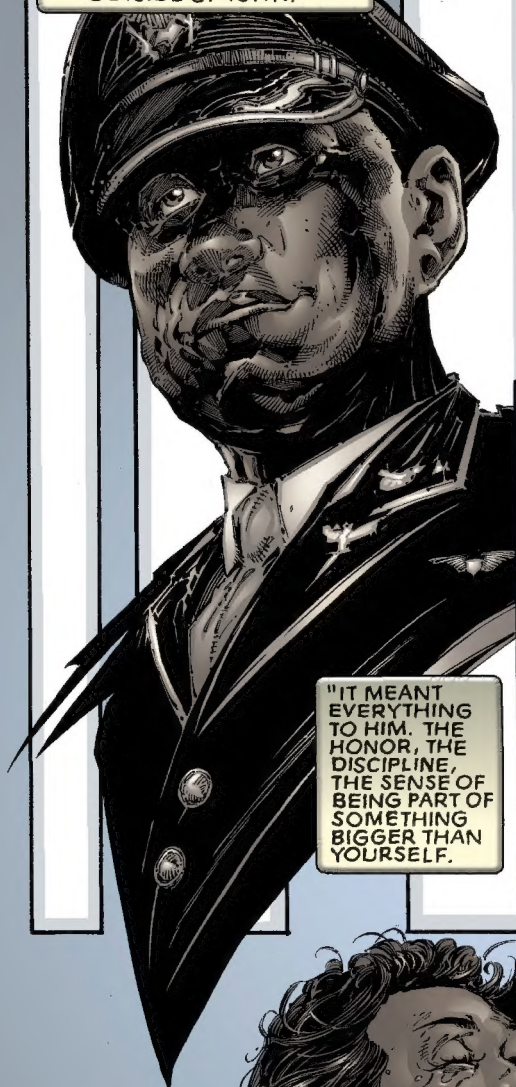


"NOW, IT DIDN'T TAKE LONG TO REALIZE WE WERE HEAD OVER HEELS FOR EACH OTHER. I WAS JUST A GIRL, BUT I **KNEW**. I KNEW THIS WAS THE **REAL THING**."

"BUT THINGS WEREN'T THAT SIMPLE. AS MUCH AS I WANTED TO SPEND MY LIFE WITH THIS MAN, I ALWAYS KNEW HE WAS GOING TO **LEAVE ME**."



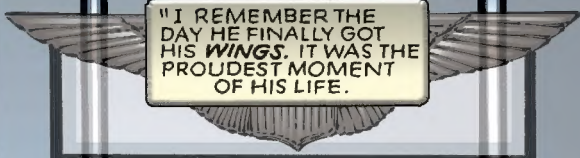
"SEE, LIKE MOST YOUNG MEN IN THOSE DAYS, JACK WAS IN THE SERVICE. A GENUINE **TUSKEGEE AIRMAN**, TRAINING AT THE BASE JUST OUTSIDE OF TOWN.



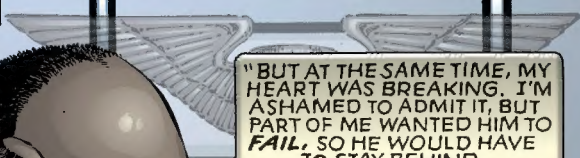
"IT MEANT EVERYTHING TO HIM. THE HONOR, THE DISCIPLINE, THE SENSE OF BEING PART OF SOMETHING BIGGER THAN YOURSELF.



"I REMEMBER THE DAY HE FINALLY GOT HIS **WINGS**. IT WAS THE PROUDEST MOMENT OF HIS LIFE.



"THERE HE WAS. MY OWN KNIGHT IN SHINING ARMOR, READY TO SLAY ALL THE DRAGONS OF THE WORLD.



"BUT AT THE SAME TIME, MY HEART WAS BREAKING. I'M ASHAMED TO ADMIT IT, BUT PART OF ME WANTED HIM TO **FAIL**, SO HE WOULD HAVE TO STAY BEHIND.



"I JUST WANTED TO HOLD HIM FOREVER.

"THE NIGHT BEFORE HIS SQUADRON LEFT, THERE WAS A BIG DANCE."

"I WAS PROUD AND NERVOUS AND TERRIFIED ALL AT ONCE. I COULDN'T BEAR THE THOUGHT OF LETTING HIM GO."



"THAT NIGHT WE DANCED SO CLOSE IT FELT LIKE WE WERE ONE PERSON."

"AND THEN I STARTED TO CRY. I TOLD HIM I WAS A FOOL TO FALL FOR HIM, KNOWING HE WAS GOING TO BE TAKEN FROM ME."

"HE SAID THERE WAS NO WAY HE COULD DIE. HE HAD TO COME BACK TO **MARRY ME**."

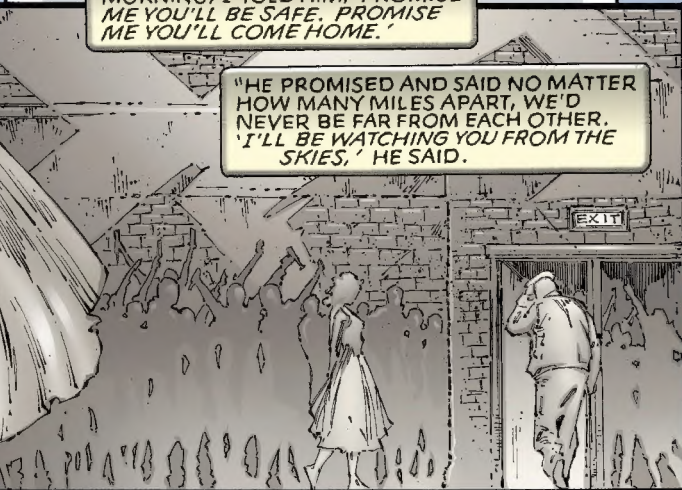
"HE JUST BRUSHED MY HAIR OFF MY FACE AND KISSED MY TEARS AND TOLD ME THAT I HAD NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT."




"WE ANNOUNCED OUR ENGAGEMENT THAT VERY MINUTE."

"WHEN THE BOYS LEFT THE NEXT MORNING, I TOLD HIM, 'PROMISE ME YOU'LL BE SAFE. PROMISE ME YOU'LL COME HOME.'"

"HE PROMISED AND SAID NO MATTER HOW MANY MILES APART, WE'D NEVER BE FAR FROM EACH OTHER. 'I'LL BE WATCHING YOU FROM THE SKIES,' HE SAID."



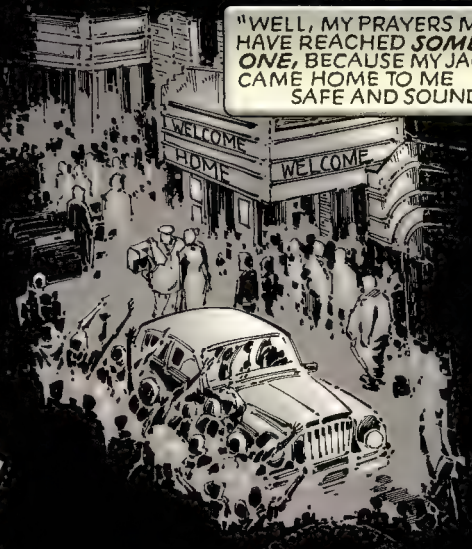


"SO JACK FLEW
OFF TO WAR AND
EVERY NIGHT I
WOULD PRAY THAT
THE GOOD LORD
WOULD BRING HIM
HOME TO ME."


"HE WOULD WRITE
ME WHENEVER HE
HAD THE CHANCE,
AND EVERY LETTER
REMINDS ME WHY
I LOVED HIM SO."

"YOU SEE, WHENEVER WE
WERE TOGETHER I FELT LIKE WE
WERE THE ONLY TWO PEOPLE
ALIVE. BUT JACK NEVER COULD
FORGET THE REST OF THE WORLD."


"HE WANTED TO MAKE A
DIFFERENCE. HE WAS FIGHTING
TO MAKE A BETTER LIFE FOR
EVERYONE, TO MAKE A BETTER
WORLD FOR THE KIDS WE
WOULD SOMEDAY HAVE."



"WELL, MY PRAYERS MUST
HAVE REACHED *SOME-*
ONE, BECAUSE MY JACKIE
CAME HOME TO ME
SAFE AND SOUND."




"I READ EACH
LETTER A
THOUSAND TIMES.
TO THIS DAY, I
STILL HAVE THEM
ALL MEMORIZED."



"AND THE FOLLOWING
SPRING, I MARRIED
MYSELF A *HERO*. IT
WAS THE HAPPIEST
DAY OF MY LIFE."


"BUT OUR LIFE
WAS REALLY JUST
BEGINNING."



"JACK WORKED HIS WAY THROUGH LAW SCHOOL, BECAME A LAWYER. WE MOVED UP HERE TO NEW YORK AND STARTED A FAMILY. WHAT MORE COULD WE ASK FOR?"


"OF COURSE, JACK STILL HAD HIS CRUSADES. HE'D TAKE CASES NO ONE ELSE WOULD. TAKE ON ENEMIES THAT'D SCARE OFF ANYONE ELSE."

"THE MOB. THE UNIONS. EVEN THE GOVERNMENT. IT WASN'T IN HIM TO BACK DOWN FROM A FIGHT."



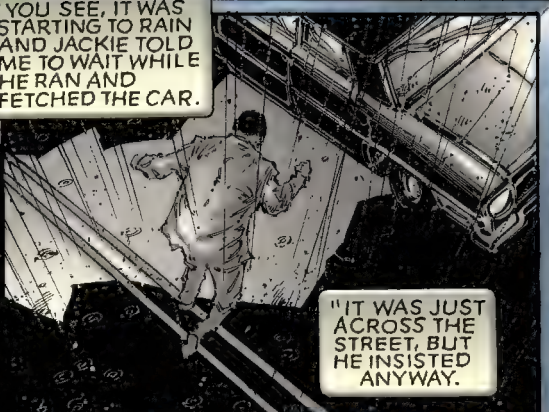
"THAT LAST NIGHT, WHENEVER I THINK ABOUT IT, IT'S LIKE A MOVIE RUNNING IN SLOW MOTION. JACKIE HAD BEEN WORKING LATE A LOT. ON WHAT, HE WOULDN'T SAY."

"BUT HE PROMISED TO TAKE ME OUT THAT WEEKEND, TO MAKE THINGS UP TO ME. IT WAS LIKE WE WERE KIDS AGAIN."



"I'M SORRY. YOU'LL HAVE TO GIVE ME A SECOND..."

"YOU SEE, IT WAS STARTING TO RAIN AND JACKIE TOLD ME TO WAIT WHILE HE RAN AND FETCHED THE CAR."



"IT WAS JUST ACROSS THE STREET, BUT HE INSISTED ANYWAY."



"GENTLEMAN JACK."

"THAT WAS THE LAST THING I EVER SAW."

"AFTER THAT, I DIDN'T MUCH CARE IF I EVER SAW ANYTHING AGAIN."



I'M SO
SORRY.
I DIDN'T
KNOW...

"INTO EACH
LIFE A LITTLE
RAIN MUST FALL."
IT'S JUST THAT I NEVER
GOT TO SAY GOODBYE, TO
LOOK HIM IN THE EYE
ONE LAST TIME. BUT
THINGS **DID** GET
BETTER.

I'VE HAD
A LOT OF
GIFTS IN MY
LIFE. MY KIDS
GREW UP AND
THEY GAVE ME
GRANDKIDS. AND
THEN WANDA
GREW UP AND
MARRIED
YOU.


THEN
AFTER YOU WERE...
GONE... SHE MARRIED
TERRY AND THEY
GAVE ME A BEAUTIFUL
LITTLE GREAT-
GRANDDAUGHTER.
I CAN'T
COMPLAIN.

BUT I GUESS
I DO GET LONESOME
SOMETIMES. NEVER THOUGHT
OF REMARRYING THOUGH.
THE TRUTH IS, I DIDN'T THINK
I WAS GOING TO **LIVE**
THIS DARN LONG.

BUT MOST
OF ALL, I HAVE
FAITH. FAITH
THAT JACK AND I
WILL BE TO-
GETHER IN THE
NEXT WORLD. JUST
LIKE YOU AND
WANDA WILL
BE.

YOU HAVE
TO HAVE PATIENCE,
CHILD. SEE, **THIS**
LIFE IS JUST A FLICKER,
A HEARTBEAT. AND
FOREVER'S A REAL
LONG TIME.

"ALL THIS PASSES
SO QUICKLY.
IT'S WHERE
YOU SPEND
ETERNITY
THAT MATTERS."



WHAT WAS IT LIKE, AL? CAN YOU TELL ME? WHEN YOU FIRST PASSED TO THE **OTHER SIDE**, I MEAN, IS IT EVERYTHING YOU THOUGHT IT WOULD BE?

I MEAN, A **WAR**, HERO LIKE YOU, I BET THEY ROLLED OUT THE RED CARPET.

I...

IT...

LET'S JUST SAY IT WASN'T WHAT I EXPECTED. I REALLY CAN'T TELL YOU ANYTHING MORE. I'M SORRY.

YOU OKAY, AL?

GRANNY BLAKE, I WANT YOU TO COME WITH ME. I'VE JUST HAD AN IDEA.




PLEASE
GIVE ME
YOUR
HAND.



WHAT'S
HAPPENING...
I FEEL
STRANGE.

TRUST
ME.



WHERE
ARE WE? WE'RE
SOMEWHERE
ELSE NOW,
AREN'T WE?

IT'S A
SPECIAL
PLACE. A KIND
OF HEAVENLY
CROSSROADS.
IT'S CALLED
THE DEAD
ZONE.

I DON'T
MUCH
LIKE THE
SOUND OF
THAT.



DON'T
WORRY. IT'LL
BE ALL
RIGHT. I
PROMISE.



I FEEL
DIFFERENT...
WHAT DID YOU
DO TO ME?

"THE NEXT
THING I
KNOW, I'M
ENVELOPED
BY THE MOST
INCREDIBLE
SENSATION,
LIKE BEING
WRAPPED
IN ELECTRIC
VELVET."

WALK
FORWARD...
TOWARD THE
LIGHT. I'M SORRY,
I CAN'T GO WITH
YOU. BUT I'LL
BE RIGHT
HERE.

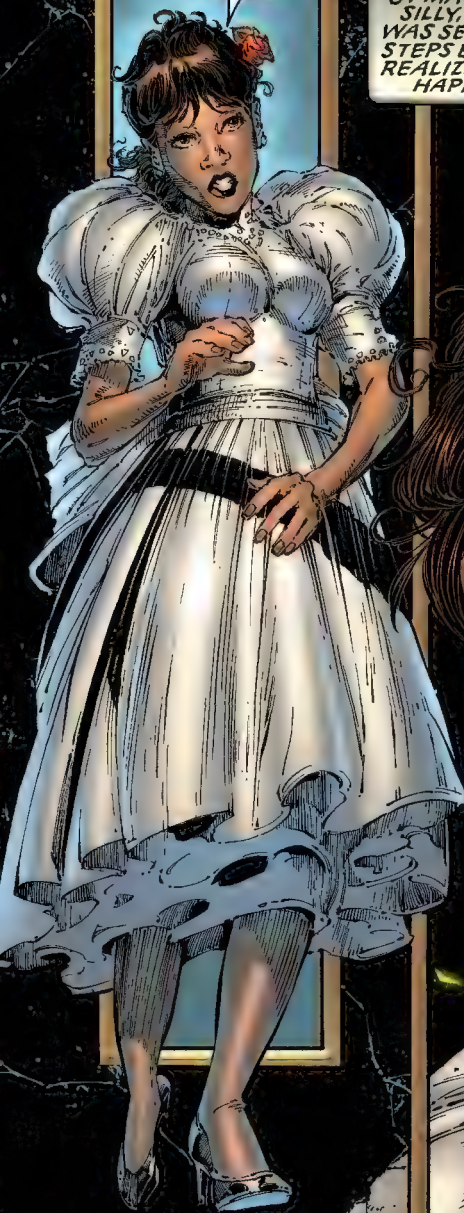
TOWARDS
THE *LIGHT*?
BUT I'M--


Oh my
God!

"IT MAY SOUND
SILLY, BUT IT
WAS SEVERAL
STEPS BEFORE I
REALIZED WHAT
HAPPENED."

I CAN
SEE!

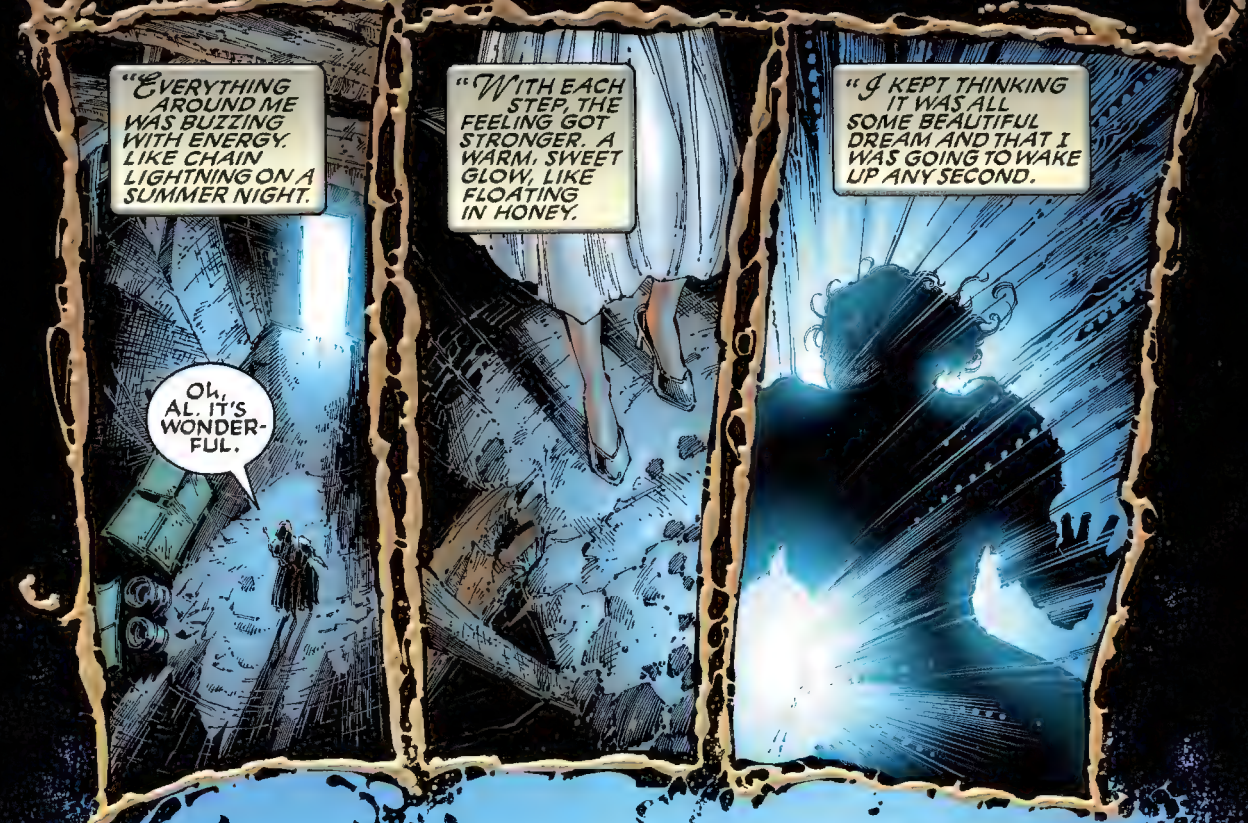
Oh,
GRACIOUS!
LOOK AT ME!
HONEY, HOW
DID YOU DO
THIS?





SHHH.
JUST KEEP
HEADING
FORWARD.

OKAY.



"EVERYTHING
AROUND ME
WAS BUZZING
WITH ENERGY.
LIKE CHAIN
LIGHTNING ON A
SUMMER NIGHT.

Oh,
AL. IT'S
WONDER-
FUL.

"WITH EACH
STEP, THE
FEELING GOT
STRONGER. A
WARM, SWEET
GLOW, LIKE
FLOATING
IN HONEY.

"I KEPT THINKING
IT WAS ALL
SOME BEAUTIFUL
DREAM AND THAT I
WAS GOING TO WAKE
UP ANY SECOND.



"AND THEN IT
HAPPENED.
THE MIRACLE."

OH MY GOD...

IT CAN'T BE...

Oh, SWEET HEAVEN, IT IS!

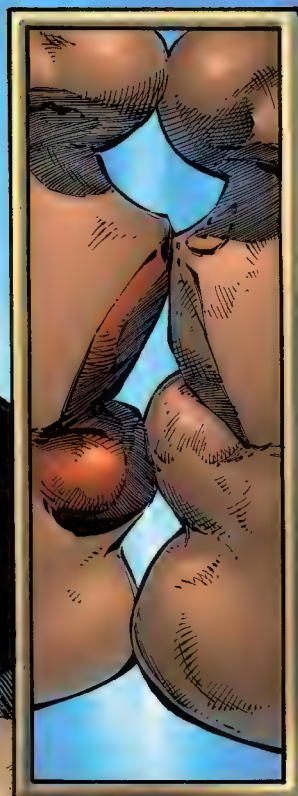
JACK!!

THERE'S MY GIRL!



YOU KNOW,
YOU HAVE
THE MOST
BEAUTIFUL
EYES,
MA'AM!

OK,
JACK,
IS IT
REALLY
YOU?



"AFTER ALL THESE
YEARS, TO HOLD HIM
AGAIN, TO LOOK IN HIS
EYES ONCE MORE AND
HEAR HIM SAY, 'I LOVE
YOU, MARY BLAKE.'"

"AND WE DANCED SO
CLOSE IT FELT LIKE WE
WERE ONE PERSON. I
WANTED TO NEVER
LET HIM GO."

"HE TOLD ME HOW
MUCH HE MISSED
ME, HOW MUCH I
STILL MEANT TO HIM.
AND THAT HE'LL WAIT
FOR ME, THAT WE
HAVE AN ETERNITY TO
SPEND TOGETHER."



"I DON'T
KNOW
HOW MUCH
TIME
PASSED...
A MINUTE...
AN HOUR...
A YEAR..."

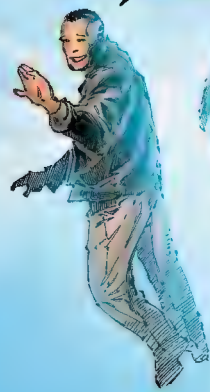


I HAVE
TO GO.

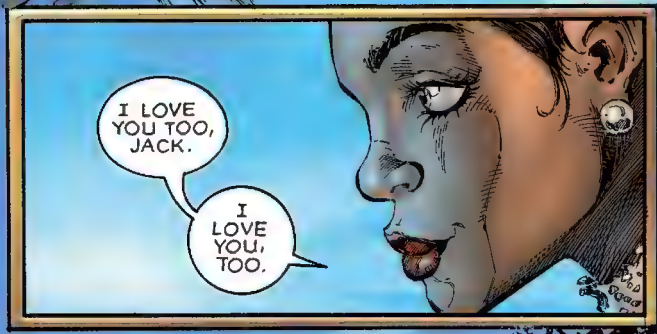


LIVE YOUR
LIFE, MARY. MAKE
THE MOST OF THE
TIME YOU HAVE.
I'LL BE WAITING
FOR YOU.

NO MATTER
WHAT, WE'LL
NEVER BE FAR
APART. I'LL BE
WATCHING YOU
FROM THE *SKIES*.
I LOVE YOU,
MARY.



I
ALWAYS
HAVE AND
I ALWAYS
WILL.




I LOVE
YOU TOO,
JACK.

I
LOVE
YOU,
TOO.



OK, AL! IT
WAS WONDERFUL.
HOW DID YOU DO
IT? AN HONEST
TO GOODNESS
MIRACLE! HOW
CAN I EVER THANK
YOU?

WAIT! STOP!
DON'T CROSS THE
THRESHOLD.



I JUST
WANTED TO DO
SOMETHING FOR
YOU. I... OH MY
GOD! I DIDN'T
REALIZE...
YOU...

YOU LOOK
JUST LIKE
WANDA!



COME
HERE, AL.
I WANT TO
SEE WHAT MY
**GUARDIAN
ANGEL**
LOOKS
LIKE.

NO, I
CAN'T.

HUSH. I
MAY LOOK
21, BUT I'M
STILL YOUR
ELDER. NOW
DO AS I
SAY.



COME ON,
CLOSER. OW,
AL, YOU'RE
BEAUTIFUL!



THANK
YOU,
AL.

"AS I KISSED HIM, I TOOK ONE STEP OUT OF THE DOORWAY. AND THEN EVERYTHING WENT DARK AGAIN."

THANK YOU.

YOU JUST MADE AN OLD WOMAN VERY HAPPY.

I'M GLAD.

DO YOU SEE WHAT I MEAN NOW? IT'S THE **FOREVER** THAT COUNTS.

THE WORLD IS FULL OF MEN WHO WILL MARCH INTO **HELL** FOR A PRETTY GIRL, BUT IT'S THE GOOD ONES WHO WILL OPEN THE GATES OF **HEAVEN** FOR HER.

TERRY'S A FINE MAN. HE'LL TAKE GOOD CARE OF WANDA. BUT HE'S NOT HER **SOUL MATE**. NOT LIKE YOU.

I FIGURE GOD MUST HAVE SOMETHING BIG PLANNED FOR YOU IF HE BROUGHT YOU BACK, BUT YOU KEEP MISSING IT BECAUSE YOU CAN'T SEE PAST WANDA.

YOU HAVE TO LET HER GO. FOR A WHILE ANYWAY. LET HER LIVE HER LIFE. YOU'VE GOT BIG THINGS IN STORE FOR YOU, AL SIMMONS. THAT MUCH I'M SURE OF.

AND YOU'LL HAVE AN **ETERNITY** TO SPEND WITH WANDA. JUST HAVE A LITTLE **FAITH**...

BUT THAT'S JUST IT...

Shhh. I KNOW IT'S HARD. TRUE LOVE ALWAYS IS. IF IT WASN'T, **EVERY-ONE** WOULD DO IT.



"YOU KNOW, LOVE IS A FUNNY THING."



WHO'S MY LITTLE ANGEL? Huh?

CYAN.
WHO?

CYAN! CYAN!
CYAN!



"I'LL SWEEP YOU OFF YOUR FEET AND SPIN YOU ALL AROUND."

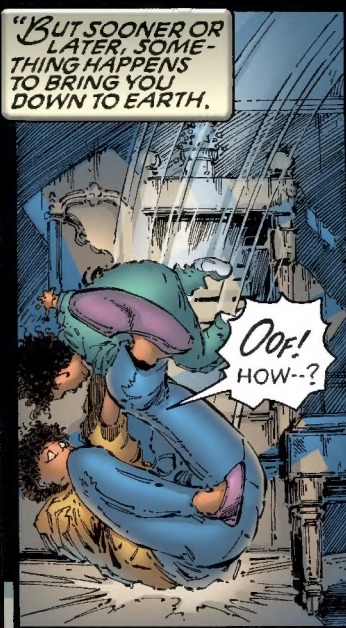
THAT'S RIGHT SWEETIE. YES YOU ARE!

WHEEE!



LOOK MOMMY, WE'RE FLYING!

WHAT?!

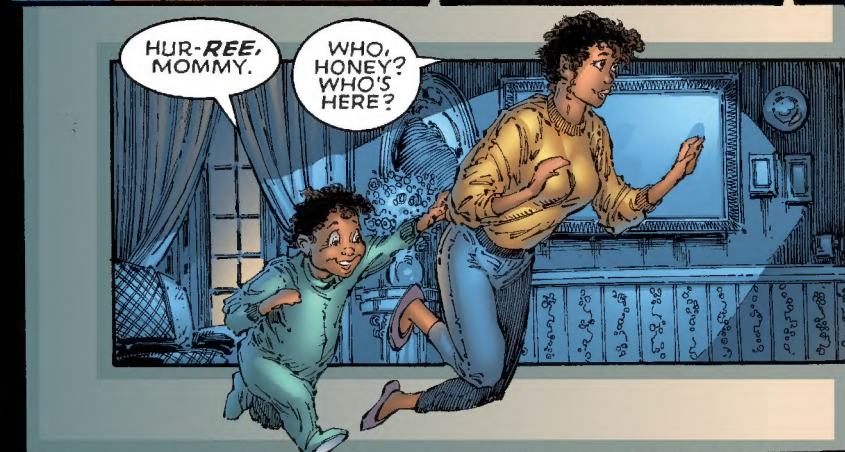


"BUT SOONER OR LATER, SOMETHING HAPPENS TO BRING YOU DOWN TO EARTH."

OOF!
HOW--?



IT'S HIM, MOMMY! I THINK HE'S HERE.



HUR-REE, MOMMY.

WHO, HONEY? WHO'S HERE?

"AND THAT'S WHEN THE WORK STARTS. 'CAUSE WHAT'S WORTH HAVING IS WORTH FIGHTING FOR. WORTH SACRIFICING FOR. THAT'S WHAT REAL LOVE IS."

"GENTLEMAN" JACK BLAKE TAUGHT ME THAT.

"SO WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?"

I DON'T SEE ANYONE.

"IF YOU ASK ME, AL WILL FIND A WAY TO SAY GOODBYE TO HIS WANDA, AT LEAST FOR NOW."

Hmm?

"BUT HE'LL ALWAYS BE WATCHING OUT FOR HER, JUST LIKE MY JACKIE."

Ook... PRIDDY, IT WAS THE SAD MAN. I KNOW IT!

LOOK MOMMY.

"AND THEN HE'LL GO OFF AND FIND OUT WHAT LIES AHEAD FOR HIM. FIND THE ANSWERS HE'S BEEN LOOKING FOR."

NO MATTER WHAT IT TAKES...

"AND THEN, WHEN HE FINALLY FINDS HIS TRUE PATH, NO MATTER HOW LONG AND HARD THE JOURNEY, IN THE END IT WILL LEAD HIM BACK TO HER."

"AND THEY'LL BE TOGETHER AGAIN. IF NOT IN THIS WORLD, THEN IN THE NEXT."

"I MAY NOT KNOW A LOT OF THINGS, BUT I DO KNOW THAT."

The END





Tyrant
Lizard
King

EMPIRE